📝 NOTES FROM THE DIRECTORS

REPORT CARD UPDATE
Updated secure report cards will be loaded to SAFE this Thursday, November 10th. We are on track to release the public report cards next Thursday, November 17th, as planned. As described in last week's DAC Digest, there are a number of updates that have been made since the preliminary report cards were released. In some cases, data corrections result in changed scores – both increases and decreases – and in some cases data corrections, while they improved accuracy of underlying data, result in no score changes. In all cases, because we use multiple years of data in the report cards, accurate data this year means more accurate report cards not only this year, but also in future years.

I want to note a few key points related to the updated release of secure report cards:

- The updated report cards will REPLACE existing report cards in SAFE. If you want to compare, I suggest saving a copy of the existing report **TODAY** on a local secure drive. You will not be able to access the preliminary secure report cards (released on 9/26) in SAFE once the updated secure report cards are loaded on Thursday. The top of the updated report card will say "UPDATED PRELIMINARY."
- As a reminder, the following changes will be reflected in the updated secure report cards:
    - District test participation deductions have been removed.
    - ELA test participation for the ACT reflects the following business rule: any student with scores in two of the three ELA tests (English, reading, and/or writing) is counted as a test participant.
    - Accepted changes from an inquiry process are incorporated.
- There is **one new change** for secure report cards that was identified as we have been able to proceed with QA this week. As noted in prior DAC Digests, there were many demographic data changes for the report cards this year, particularly related to economic status (ECD rate). The scope of these changes actually resulted in a change in the statewide NON-ECD comparison group for the Closing Gaps priority area. What this means: the trend for the statewide NON-ECD comparison group increased, which resulted in **decreases in closing gaps scores for some schools and districts**. As far as we see, the decreases (absent additional changes resulting from an inquiry) range from a .1 to 1.2-point Closing Gaps score decrease, and these changes can impact overall scores. Overall scores (again, isolating this change) decreased in some cases by .1 to .5 of a point. **This change could impact your school even if you did not have an open inquiry.**

If you haven't already, I encourage every school and district to review their updated report cards as soon as possible once available in SAFE tomorrow. Deputy State Superintendent Mike Thompson will send an email tomorrow confirming the availability of updated secure report cards in SAFE.

Thank you for helping communicate this information. Please let us know if you have any questions (oeamail@dpi.wi.gov).

~Laura
Laura Pinsonneault, Director - Office of Educational Accountability

OSA OFFICE HOURS WEBINAR

Thanks for joining the OSA Office Hours webinar held on Thursday, November 3 from 9:30 - 10:30. Please visit the DAC Resources & Trainings webpage for the PPT slides (available now) and the archived webinar (available in the next day or so).

REMINDER - REQUEST FOR VOLUNTEERS - *PLEASE FORWARD TO TEACHERS*

Wisconsin is part of the DIAMOND (Data Informed Accessibility – Making Optimal Needs-based Decisions) Grant managed by Dr. Martha Thurlow, Principal Investigator, of the National Center on Educational Outcomes (NCEO), University of Minnesota. DIAMOND is seeking general education and EL teachers to participate in a study of teachers' classroom accessibility and accommodations decision-making practices for K-12 students. If you are interested to participate in this study, we would ask you to share your thoughts about decision making for classroom accessibility and accommodations for K-12 students. To do so, you will be asked to use the secure online focus group website to type responses to questions and to other participants' comments. Participation will take less than 30 minutes per questions to respond to each of the seven focus group questions. You will receive a gift card for your participation, if you are selected to participate.

If you are interested in possibly being selected to participate in this study, please send an email to Linda Goldstone (nceodiam@umn.edu). The selection of participants for the online focus group will be completed by November 11, 2016.

OSA STAFF UPDATE

We are bidding farewell to Melissa Passehl, OSA Strategic Planning & Professional Learning Consultant, who is moving on to DPI's Special Education team as the Implementation Specialist Consultant. Melissa's last day will be this Friday, 11/11. With her departure, we will be posting the position and looking for her replacement in the coming weeks.

Thank you,
~Viji
Viji Somasundaram, Director - Office of Student Assessment

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WISCONSIN STATEWIDE ASSESSMENT SYSTEM UPDATE

FORWARD EXAM_____

- *REMINDER - Forward Exam 2017 DAC Trainings*
    - DRC and DPI will be holding DAC training sessions across the state from January 30 - February 3 to help districts prepare for the 2017 administration of the Forward Exam. Trainings will be held in the following CESAs: 1, 5, 7, 10, and 12. Venues and timings are in the process of being finalized and will be published in the coming weeks.

- *REMINDER - Online Technology Q & A Sessions - Save the dates!*
    - DRC will be hosting three online technology Q & A sessions to ensure that districts are ready for the 2017 administration of the Forward Exam. The dates and times are listed below. More information regarding registration will follow in future DAC Digests.
        - January 18, 1:00pm - 2:30pm
        - February 15, 1:00pm - 2:30pm
        - March 15, 1:00pm - 2:30pm

- Reminder - A DTC training was also held earlier this month. The event was recorded and is now available on our [website.](#)

- ***REMINDER - 2017 eDirect Permissions***
  - Emails granting eDIRECT permissions for the 2017 administration of the Wisconsin Forward Exam were sent to DACs on 10/11. The emails were sent to existing and returning DACs. If you did not receive this communication, please first check your spam for an email address from the @datarecognitioncorp.com domain. Please contact the DRC helpdesk: email - WIHelpDesk@datarecognitioncorp.com; Phone - 800-459-6530.

ACT HIGH SCHOOL ASSESSMENTS_____

- ***REMINDER - 2017 Checklists of Dates***
  - The schedules of events for [ACT/ACT WorkKeys](#) and [ACT Aspire](#) are now posted to the [DPI ACT Calendar page](#). Click on the icons to download each checklist.
- ***REMINDER - Q&A Training Session Webinars***
  - ACT will host Q&A Training Session Webinars for the 2017 statewide high school assessments. Please mark your calendar and register at the links below. Registration closes 48 hours before each webinar. Following each webinar, a recording will be posted to the [DPI ACT Training webpage](#).
    - Nov 16, 10am - ACT Accommodations - Register [here](#)
    - Jan 12, 10am - ACT Test Administration #1* - Register [here](#)
    - Feb 2, 10am - ACT Test Administration #2* - Register [here](#)
    - Feb 22, 2pm - Aspire Technology Readiness - Registration info coming later
    - Mar 30, 10am - Aspire Test Administration - Registration info coming later
      *Note: Each test administration session covers unique content.

ACT with writing and ACT WorkKeys
- ***NEW -* PearsonAccess^Next and TAA Systems Now Available**
  - PearsonAccess^Next, the system used for ACT and WorkKeys test administration activities, is now open and Test Coordinator contacts can be added or changed until December 16.
    - For school Test Coordinator contact info updates, DACs need to log into PearsonAccess^Next to make updates.
    - Instructions for how to navigate PearsonAccess^Next can be found under the PearsonAccess^Next Guides tab of the [Wisconsin State Testing Website](#), or on the [DPI ACT Resources page](#).
  - The Test Accessibility and Accommodations (TAA) system is available for submitting accommodations requests for ACT and WorkKeys.
    - Documents and training videos are updated for 2016-17 on the [ACT Accommodations and Supports website](#) including the [TAA User Guide](#) and [Accommodations Overview](#).
    - The deadline to submit requests for ACT-approved accommodations in the TAA System for the ACT statewide exam is January 20, 2017.

ACCESS for ELLs_____

- ***REMINDER - WIDA/DRC Software Available in WIDA AMS***
  - All Applications > General Information > Technology Downloads
- ***REMINDER - Test Setup opens November 21***
- ***REMINDER - Additional Materials Window Opens November 30***
- ***REMINDER - Webinar Dates available [here](#)***.
- ***REMINDER - Updated training materials for 2016-2017 are available on the [WIDA website](#)***.

Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM)_____

- *Reminder - State Organization Structure Updated-*
  - DLM has updated the state organizational structure in KITE EDUCATOR PORTAL based upon 16-17 district updates. Please verify your district and building names. Contact Kristen Burton if you have any questions.

Assessment of Reading Readiness_____

- *REMINDER -* PALS Data Sharing Agreement
  - Districts that are currently using PALS and wanting results from the fall screening to be displayed in WISEdash will need to authorize the Department to receive this data from PALS. The data sharing agreement can be found at: Data sharing FAQ. Once signed, the data sharing agreement should be scanned and emailed to Duane Dorn.

National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) selected schools only

- *NEW -* All schools are caught up!
  - Registrations for MyNAEP, *Provide School Information* forms, and student list submissions are all in! Thanks for your help getting these tasks completed.
  - Angela may contact schools in the next week or so with questions about student list data files.
  - In early December, NAEP field staff representatives will mail pre-assessment packets and contact all schools individually to schedule pre-assessment review calls.
  - On December 5, schools can access their student sample in MyNAEP and begin the *Prepare for Assessment* tasks.

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DAC DIGEST DIGESTIBLES *(New items added this week are designated in **bold**)*

	Important Dates to Remember	
	16: ACT Accommodations Q&A training session webinar (10am) Register here	ACT
November	**21**: Test Setup Opens	ACCESS
	30: Materials Arrive; Additional Material Ordering Window Opens	ACCESS
	5: NAEP schools access their student sample	**NAEP**
December	**5-30: NAEP Prepare for Assessment tasks to be completed on MyNAEP**	**NAEP**
	6: (TUESDAY) Test Window Opens	**ACCESS**
	16: Deadline to manage participation and user contacts in PearsonAccessNext	ACT
	2-27: NAEP Prepare for Assessment tasks to be completed on MyNAEP	**NAEP**
	6: Recommended deadline to complete enrollment/user/roster uploads for participation in spring testing	DLM
January	**12: Test Administration Q&A Training Webinar #1**	ACT
	13: Recommended deadline to complete First Contact and PNP for participation in spring testing	DLM
	20: Deadline to submit ACT-approved accommodations requests in TAA	ACT
	30: NAEP assessment window opens (Jan 30 - Mar 10)	**NAEP**

Important Tasks to Remember	
❏ Review and/or share information from 10/12 DTC training (recording available here)	Forward
❏ Review ACT/ACT WorkKeys and ACT Aspire checklists of dates ❏ Register for the ACT Accommodations Training Webinar ❏ Update users' contact info in PearsonAccessNext	ACT High School Assessments
❏ Complete training for test administrators. Check status on wida.us website. ❏ Plan for technology installation and system readiness testing ❏ Ensure rooms and technology are reserved ❏ Hold IEP meetings to determine accommodations needs ❏ Plan for materials delivery, inventory, and distribution ❏ Plan for Additional Materials Ordering window, if necessary	ACCESS
❏ Update secure browser for DLM KITE Client ❏ Add new users to Educator Portal ❏ Encourage test administrators to complete the required test administrator training as early as possible ❏ Print and distribute DLM Individual Student Reports (ISRs)	DLM
❏ Ensure relevant team members are aware of the information regarding reading readiness assessment at Reading Readiness Overview and Reading Readiness FAQ	Reading Readiness
❏ Register for myNAEP and monitor/support your schools as they complete NAEP pre-assessment tasks	NAEP *(selected schools only)*

Online Resource Highlights*

As new resources are posted to our website, we will include them here for your convenience. This is NOT an exhaustive list, but meant to highlight resources with significant relevance to our upcoming test windows.

Resource	Description	Assessment
Technology User Guide	This user guide describes how to configure, install, manage, and troubleshoot DRC INSIGHT	Forward
DTC Training	Recorded District Technology Coordinator Training	Forward
Spring 2017 Checklist of Dates	2017 dates and deadlines for ACT and WorkKeys administration	ACT/WorkKeys
PearsonAccessNext System Basics	Guide for logging in and general usage of PearsonAccessNext test administration portal.	ACT/WorkKeys
Managing Contacts in PearsonAccessNext	Guide for managing contacts and test participation in PearsonAccessNext test administration portal.	ACT/WorkKeys
Spring 2017 Checklist of Dates	2017 dates and deadlines for Aspire administration	Aspire
ACCESS for ELLs Calendar	Provides an overview of relevant 2016-17 dates	ACCESS
WIDA Resources	Revamped training and manuals for 2016-17	ACCESS
DLM Data & Results resources	A sample parent letter for distribution with ISRs A one-page guide to downloading ISR reports	DLM
OSA Office Hours Webinar	The DAC Resources and Trainings page will house our recorded webinar, as well as the accompanying PPT	General
Report Card Resources	Various resources to assist in understanding, explaining, and using the 2015-16 School and District Report Card data	OEA